# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS HOUSTON DIVISION

DONTRICE WARREN,

Plaintiff,

Civil Action No.

VS.

COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

GC SERVICES, LP; and DOES 1 through 10, inclusive,

Defendants.

# **COMPLAINT**

# I. INTRODUCTION

1. This is an action for actual and statutory damages brought by Plaintiff, Dontrice Warren, an individual consumer, against Defendant, GC Services, LP, for violations of the law, including, but not limited to, violations of the Fair Debt Collection Practices Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq. (hereinafter "FDCPA"), which prohibits debt collectors from engaging in abusive, deceptive, and unfair practices.

# II. JURISDICTION

2. Jurisdiction of this court arises under 15 U.S.C. § 1692k(d) and 28 U.S.C. § 1337 and § 1331. Venue in this District is proper in that the Defendant transacts business here and the conduct complained of occurred here.

#### III. PARTIES

Plaintiff, Dontrice Warren, is a natural person with a permanent residence in Houston,
 Harris County, Texas 77035.

- 4. Upon information and belief, the Defendant, GC Services, LP, is a corporation engaged in the business of collecting debt in this state and in several other states, with its principal place of business located at 6330 Gulfton St, Suite 300, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77081. The principal purpose of Defendant is the collection of debts in this state and several other states, and Defendant regularly attempts to collect debts alleged to be due another.
- 5. Defendant is engaged in the collection of debts from consumers using the mail and telephone. Defendant regularly attempts to collect consumer debts alleged to be due to another. Defendant is a "debt collector" as defined by the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. § 1692a(6).

# IV. FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

- 6. The debt that Defendant is attempting to collect on is an alleged obligation of a consumer to pay money arising out of a transaction in which the money, property, insurance or services which are the subject of the transaction are primarily for personal, family, or household purposes, whether or not such obligation has been reduced to judgment.
- 7. Within one (1) year preceding the date of this Complaint, Defendant, in connection with the collection of the alleged debt, attempted to communicate with Plaintiff at their place of employment after being informed that this inconvenienced Plaintiff and/or was conduct prohibited by Plaintiff's employer.
- 8. The natural consequences of Defendant's statements and actions were to unjustly condemn and vilify Plaintiff for her non-payment of the debt she allegedly owed.
- 9. The natural consequences of Defendant's statements and actions were to produce an unpleasant and/or hostile situation between Defendant and Plaintiff.
- 10. The natural consequences of Defendant's statements and actions were to cause Plaintiff mental distress.

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11. Defendant utilized unfair and unconscionable means to collect on Plaintiff's alleged debt, by attempted to communicate with Plaintiff at their place of employment after being informed that this inconvenienced Plaintiff and/or was conduct prohibited by Plaintiff's employer.

# V. CAUSES OF ACTION

#### COUNT I

# VIOLATIONS OF THE FAIR DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT

# 15 U.S.C. § 1692 et seq.

- 12. Plaintiff repeats and realleges and incorporates by reference to the foregoing paragraphs.
- 13. Defendants violated the FDCPA. Defendants' violations include, but are not limited to, the following:
  - (a) Defendant violated §1692c(a)(1) of the FDCPA by communicating at a time or place known or which should be known to be inconvenient to the Plaintiff; and
  - (b) Defendant violated §1692c(a)(3) of the FDCPA by communicating with the Plaintiff at the Plaintiff's place of employment when the Defendant knew or had reason to know that the Plaintiff's employer prohibits the Plaintiff from receiving such communication; and
  - (c) Defendant violated  $\S1692d$  of the FDCPA by engaging in conduct the natural consequences of which is to harass, oppress, or abuse any person in connection with the collection of an alleged debt; and

- (d) Defendant violated §1692f of the FDCPA by using unfair or unconscionable means in connection with the collection of an alleged debt.
- 14. Defendant's acts as described above were done intentionally with the purpose of coercing Plaintiff to pay the alleged debt.
- 15. As a result of the foregoing violations of the FDCPA, Defendant is liable to the Plaintiff, Dontrice Warren, for declaratory judgment that Defendant's conduct violated the FDCPA, actual damages, statutory damages, and costs and attorney fees.

# COUNT II

# VIOLATIONS OF THE TEXAS DEBT COLLECTION PRACTICES ACT TDCPA § 392

- 16. Plaintiff repeats, realleges, and incorporates by reference all of the above paragraphs of this Complaint as though fully stated herein.
- 17. Plaintiff repeats and realleges and incorporates by reference the foregoing paragraphs.
- 18. Defendant violated TDCPA § 392. Defendant's violations of TDCPA § 392 include, but are not limited to the following:
  - (a) Defendant violated TDCPA § 392.302(4) by causing a telephone to ring repeatedly or continuously, or making repeated or continuous telephone calls with the intent to harass a person at the called number; and
  - (b) Defendant violated TDCPA § 392.304(19) by using any other false representation or deceptive means to collect on the alleged debt or obtain information concerning Plaintiff.

19. Defendants' acts as described above were done intentionally with the purpose of

coercing Plaintiff to pay the alleged debt.

20. As a result of the foregoing violations of the TDCPA, Defendant is liable to the

Plaintiff for actual damages, statutory damages, attorney's fees, interests and costs, as a result of

a violation of the TDCPA.

VI. PRAYER FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that judgment be entered against Defendant,

GC Services, LP, for the following:

A. Declaratory judgment that Defendant's conduct violated the FDCPA and TDCPA.

B. Actual damages.

C. Statutory damages pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k and the TDCPA.

D. Costs and reasonable attorney fees pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1692k.

E. Awarding Plaintiff any pre-judgment and post-judgment interest as may be allowed under

the law.

F. For such other and further relief as the Court may deem just and proper.

DATED: April 04, 2013

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

By: /s/ Kimberly A. Lucas

Kimberly A. Lucas, Esq.

State Bar No. 14991480

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# **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Plaintiff Dontrice Warren demands trial by jury in this action on all issues so triable. US Const. amend. 7. Fed.R.Civ.P. 38.